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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action mailed on October 26, 2010, has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1, 4-5, 7 and 10 are now pending in the present application; among them, claim 1 is an independent claim. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Support for the modified (RS) message comprising the source link-layer address option used for indicating a layer 2 identifier of the MN can be found at page 11, lines 2-6.

Support for comparing the layer 2 identifier from the source link-layer address option of the modified RS message with the neighbor cache value of the given AR can be found at page 11, lines 12-21.

Support for replacing the current CoA with the new CoA as the new network interface address when the layer 2 identifier from the source link-layer address option of the modified RS message is found not to be in the neighbor cache value of the given AR can be found at page 12, lines 7-10.

Support for performing the DAD process only when the layer 2 identifier from the source link-layer address option of the modified RS message is found not to be in the neighbor cache value of the given AR can be found at page 12, lines 11-13 and 26-29.

Support for continuing to use the current CoA as a new interface address when the layer 2 identifier from the source link-layer address option of the modified RS

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message is found to be in the neighbor cache value of the given AR can be found at page 11, lines 29-35.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

In the office action (page 2), claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2 as being indefinite.

The claims have been amended to remove the basis for this rejection. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

In the office action (page 3), claims 1, 4-5, 7 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Publication No. 2003/0104814 (Gwon) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0006133 (Kakemizu) and U.S. Patent No. 6,930,988 (Koodli).

The claims have been amended to be more clearly distinguished away from the disclosures of the cited references. For instance, the claimed modified Router Solicitation (RS) message is now required to have a message format comprising a 'C' flag used for signifying that a current Care of Address (CoA) is set and comprising a source link-layer address option used for indicating a layer 2 identifier of the MN. Also for instance, the general Router Advertisement (RA) message to the MN now more clearly requires that it corresponds to layer 2 handover of the MN between a previously connected AP to the newly connected AP when the layer 2 identifier from the source link-layer address option of the modified RS message is found to be in a neighbor cache value of the given AR. Also for instance, the modified RA message now more clearly comprises the new CoA when the layer 2 identifier from the source link-layer address option of the modified RS message is found not to be in the neighbor cache value of the given AR.

Since none of these newly clarified limitations are even hinted at by the cited references, then Gwon, Kakemizu and Koodli cannot support an obviousness rejection

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because Gwon, Kakemizu and Koodli, in whole or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the claimed limitations. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 4-5, 7 and 10, now pending in this application, are in condition for allowance over the cited references. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and earnestly solicit an indication of allowable subject matter.

This amendment is considered to be responsive to all points raised in the office action. Should the examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve those concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: **January 21, 2011**

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